

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant	: Tang et al.
App. No.	: 10/578,450
Filed	: May 5, 2006
For	: PREPARATION OF SELF- ASSEMBLED SILICON NANOTUBES BY HYDROTHERMAL METHOD
Examiner	: Brandon C. Fox
Art Unit	: 2818
Conf. No.	: 2105

**COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE****Mail Stop Issue Fee**

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Statement of Reasons for Allowance in the Notice of Allowance dated March 4, 2009, the Applicants respectfully submit the following comments.

To the extent that the Examiner's paraphrasing of the subject matter of the claims deviates from the actual language of the claims, the Applicants respectfully disagree with the Reasons for Allowance. The Applicants also wish to point out that the claims are patentable based on the combination of elements recited therein and not on any particular feature. Accordingly, to the extent that the Reasons for Allowance omit claims elements, the Applicants respectfully disagree with the Reasons for Allowance.

Additionally, to the extent that the Examiner's characterization of any specific references differs from the actual disclosures of the cited references, the Applicants respectfully disagree. Moreover, because the claims are patentable based on the combination of elements specifically recited therein, the Applicants respectfully disagree with the Reasons for Allowance to the extent

**Application No.:** 10/578,450  
**Filing Date:** May 5, 2006

that the Examiner characterizes any feature or combination of features recited by the claims with the specific teachings and/or lack thereof in the cited references.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated: April 30, 2009

By: Adam Gilbert  
Adam Gilbert  
Registration No. 59,967  
Attorney of Record  
Customer No. 20,995  
(949) 760-0404

7068753